

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-01

INFO OCT-01 INR-01 PA-01 ISO-00 /004 W

----- 090762

O R 041034Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4040

USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION USUN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USLO PEKING

USIA WASHDC

CINCEUR

UNCLAS MOSCOW 12558

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USINFO FOR IOP/M

USIA FOR IBS, IEE, IPS

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY -- SEPT 4

1. U.S.-SOVIET. USA DIRECTOR ARBATOV PRAISES IN IZVESTIYA RECENT PROGRESS IN DETENTE, BUT WARNS THAT ACTIVITY OF DETENTE OPPONENTS HAS BEEN STEPPED UP SINCE HELSINKI. ARBATOV SAYS THAT SOME IN U.S. WHO AGREE THAT ATOMIC WAR NOT AN ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE REFUSE TO MOVE FORWARD TO FURTHER STAGES IN DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONSHIP. BUT JUST AS A WOMAN CANNOT BE A LITTLE PREGNANT, THERE CANNOT BE A CONTINUED STATE OF A "LITTLE DETENTE", HE ARGUES. ATTACKS ON DETENTE, HE WRITES, CENTER ON IDEA THAT ONLY THE SOVIET UNION IS WINNING FROM DETENTE AND ALSO ON SOVIET REFUSAL TO "GUARANTEE THE SOCIAL STATUS-QUO IN THE WORLD". THIS CAMPAIGN HAS RESULTED IN "ABSURDLY HIGH" U.S. DEFENSE BUDGET, EVEN ABSENCE OF USUAL MANSFIELD AMENDMENT ON TROOP STRENGTH IN EUROPE. ARBATOV ALSO ATTACKS WEST, PRIMARILY U.S., FOR DISTORTIONS OF CSCE FINAL ACT, SAYING THAT SIMPLIFIED VIEW HAS RESULTED WHICH LEADS TO EMPHASIS ONLY ON THE BORDERS PROVISION--WHICH DETENTE OPPONENTS PORTRAY AS LARGE CONCESSION TO THE USSR--AND ON BASKET III--IN WHICH DETENTE OPPONENTS CLAMOR FOR "REPAYMENT" OF CONCESSIONS ON BORDER ISSUE. ARBATOV SAYS THAT BORDERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN "PAID FOR" BY 20 MILLION SOVIET LIVES, AND THAT IN ANY CASE SOVIET RECORD OF PERFORMANCE ON BASKET III ISSUES BETTER THAN U.S. MORE U.S. BOOKS ARE PUBLISHED IN SOVIET UNION THAN VICE VERSA AND IT IS EASIER FOR AN AMERICAN TO GET A VISA TO THE SOVIET UNION THAN OTHER WAY AROUND. U.S. IN ANY CASE SHOULD NOT PORTRAY ITSELF AS BASTION OF FREEDOM AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN VIEW OF ITS RECORD OF PAST YEARS WHICH INCLUDES, INTER ALIA, POLITICAL MURDERS OF BLACK PANTHERS AND INDIANS BY POLICE. DETENTE NEVERTHELESS CONTINUES TO BE NECESSARY TO BOTH U.S. AND SOVIET UNION IN ORDER TO AVOID WAR AND ALSO TO SOLVE EMERGING GLOBAL PROBLEMS. SOVIET UNION IS OPTIMISTIC THAT

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DETENTE WILL SUCCEED (SEPTTEL).

2. PORTUGAL. IN SIGNED REPORT (KORIONOV) PRAVDA PRAISES ROLE PLAYED SO FAR BY PCP IN "FIRST DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION IN WESTERN EUROPE IN RECENT DECADES". KORIONOV CALLS PORTUGAL THE "FORWARD LINE OF DEFENSE OF RIGHT OF PEOPLE OF WESTERN EUROPE AND OTHER CAPITALIST STATES TO FREE, SOVERIGN DEVELOPMENT". HE REPEATS STANDARD CHARGES OF WESTERN INTER-

REFERENCE, QUOTING THE CANADIAN COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER THAT CIA, NATO, CAPITALIST PRESS ACTING IN COORDINATED CAMPAIGN. HE QUOTES DAILY WORLD AS SAYING THAT A "BLOODY TIE" EXISTS BETWEEN STRUGGLE FOR RIGHTS OR WORKING MASSES IN U.S. AND PRESENT STRUGGLE IN PORTUGAL. A SEPARATE TASS ITEM IN PRAVDA REPORTS PROTESTS AGAINST ATTEMPTS TO CHANGE DELEGATIONS TO THE AFM ASSEMBLY. SAME ITEM ALSO REPORTS POSTPONEMENT OF GONCALVES' AND AZEVEDO ENTRY ON DUTY IN THEIR NEW POSTS, ADDING ONLY COMMENT THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT BEING TIED "BY THE (PORTUGUESE) PRESS" TO FURTHER COMPLICATIONS IN THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

3. MIDDLE EAST. PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA CONTINUE TO PLAY BACK FOREIGN PRESS REACTION TO THE ME AGREEMENT. GENERAL THRUST REMAINS THAT ESSENTIAL PROBLEMS, SUCH AS PALESTINIAN QUESTION AND TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, WERE NOT SOLVED.

4. ASIA. PRAVDA CARRIES MESSAGES FROM ALL EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES EXCEPT ROMANIA CONGRATULATING MOSCOW ON ITS VICTORY OVER JAPAN THIRTY YEARS AGO. THE MESSAGES ALL LINKED THE VICTORY TO THE NATIONAL LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN ASIA, AND ALL ENDORSED SPECIFICALLY THE SCHEME OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY.

5. A PRAVDA COMMENTARY ENDORSES THE QUASHING OF THE COUP ATTEMPT IN ECUADOR AND PRAISES THE PROGRAM OF ECONOMIC NATIONALISM OF PRESIDENT RODRIGUES LARO. THE COMMENTARY HINTS THAT FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC OPPOSITION TO THIS PROGRAM, ESPECIALLY CONCERNING OIL REVENUES, FUELED THE COUP ATTEMPT. PRAVDA NOTES THAT THE COMMUNIST PARTY SUPPORTED THE PRESIDENT AGAINST THE COUP PLOTTERS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW12558
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750305-0933
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750984/aaaacwky.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellEO
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUN 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2004 by RowellEO>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY -- SEPT 4
TAGS: PFOR, UR
To: STATE USINFO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006